
Introduced by Senator Benoit

May 7, 2009

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 45—Relative to United States Travel Rally Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 45, as introduced, Benoit. United States Travel Rally Day.

This measure would recognize May 12, 2009, as United States Travel Rally Day and call upon Californians to observe this day by rallying to demonstrate the importance of travel and tourism to the economy.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, The United States Senate and House of
2 Representatives designated the week beginning on the second
3 Saturday of May of each year, beginning in 1984, as “National
4 Travel and Tourism Week,” and elected officials are invited to
5 issue proclamations to raise awareness of the value of travel to the
6 welfare of the nation; and
7 WHEREAS, Travel and tourism play a critical role in the
8 nation’s economy as one of the largest industries in the United
9 States; and
10 WHEREAS, Travel is among one of the top 10 industries in 49
11 of the states in terms of employment, and one of every eight jobs
12 in the United States is created directly or indirectly by travel and
13 tourism; and
14 WHEREAS, Domestic and international visitors spent \$97.6
15 billion in California destinations in 2008; and

1 WHEREAS, The nearly \$100 billion in spending supported
2 924,000 jobs and accounted for combined earnings of \$30.6 billion;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Travel spending also generated \$2.2 billion in local
5 taxes and \$3.6 billion in state taxes in 2008; and

6 WHEREAS, There were 338 million domestic visitors who
7 traveled to and through California in 2008, of which 86 percent
8 were California residents; and

9 WHEREAS, Approximately 13.4 million international visitors
10 traveled to California in 2008; and

11 WHEREAS, The recession has severely impacted the travel and
12 tourism industry with the recent downturn, beginning in the closing
13 months of 2008, interrupting 74 consecutive months of positive
14 growth; and

15 WHEREAS, Purchases of travel and tourism-related goods and
16 services by international visitors in the United States decreased
17 by more than 13 percent in February 2009 compared to February
18 2008, representing a \$10.1 billion loss; and

19 WHEREAS, Cancellations of business travel, meetings, events,
20 and conventions from just 20 percent of the lodging industry
21 exceeded \$220 million nationally during January and February
22 2009; now, therefore, be it

23 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
24 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature recognizes May 12, 2009,
25 as United States Travel Rally Day, and calls upon all Californians
26 to observe this day by participating in appropriate rallies and other
27 activities to raise awareness of the vital role of travel and tourism
28 to Californians and the state's economy; and be it further

29 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
30 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.